

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063017

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER) NZ

SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT: SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR
DISCUSSION WITH GNZ

1. WE VIEW VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO WELLINGTON PRIMARILY AS MEANS OF DEMONSTRATING BOTH THE CLOSENESS OF OUR TIES TO NEW ZEALAND AND THE CONTINUED VITAL ROLE THAT THE US INTENDS TO PLAY IN SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF PACIFIC BASIN AS A WHOLE. VISIT IS ALSO DESIGNED TO ENGAGE NEW ZEALAND COOPERATION IN ADDRESSING CERTAIN GLOBAL ISSUES.

2. IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH GNZ OFFICIALS VICE PRESIDENT CAN BE EXPECTED TO REAFFIRM US INTEREST IN PACIFIC AREA AND OUR COMMITMENT TO THE ANZUS ALLIANCE. HE WILL BE PREPARED TO BRIEF GNZ OFFICIALS ON WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES,

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SUCH AS SALT, INDIAN OCEAN TALKS, MIDDLE EAST, US RELATIONS WITH CHINA AND THE USSR, RHODESIA.

3. VICE PRESIDENT CAN BE EXPECTED ALSO TO RAISE QUESTIONS OF FOOD AND ENERGY, WHICH ARE LIKELY TO BE MAJOR THEMES OF HIS ASIAN VISIT. SPECIFICALLY, HE WILL PROBABLY WANT TO SOUND OUT GNZ ON POSSIBLE NEW ZEALAND ROLE IN HELPING

ATTACK PROBLEMS OF WORLD FOOD SHORTAGES WITH PARTICULAR

STRESS ON ASIAN-PACIFIC REGION. HE MAY ALSO ASK FOR
NEW ZEALAND THINKING ON REGIONAL COOPERATION IN DEVELOPING
ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY, SUCH AS GEOTHERMAL
POSSIBILITIES.

4. VICE PRESIDENT WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS IN GENERAL
TERMS BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL TRADE ISSUES IF THEY ARE
RAISED BY GNZ. HOWEVER, PARTIALLY IN VIEW OF HEAVY
EMPHASIS GIVEN TO THESE MATTERS DURING NOVEMBER VISIT TO
US OF PRIME MINISTER MULDOON AND FEBRUARY VISIT TO
NEW ZEALAND OF DEPUTY STR WOLFF, WE DO NOT ENVISAGE VICE
PRESIDENT'S VISIT AS OPPORTUNITY TO GO OVER THIS GROUND
AGAIN IN ANY DETAIL.

5. REQUEST EMBASSY CONVEY THOUGHTS IN PARAS 2 THROUGH 4
TO GNZ, ELICITING THEIR COMMENTS AND THEIR DESIRES WITH
RESPECT TO SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED DURING VISIT. WOULD
OF COURSE APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS EMBASSY
WOULD ITSELF LIKE TO MAKE. VANCE

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